

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OES-03 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /081 W

----- 124026

R 131333Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6718

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XB

SUBJECT: PRAVDA PLUGS ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

1. PRAVDA (NOV 21) CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY PROMINENT
POLITICAL OBSERVER VIKTOR MAYEVSKIY CALLED "ASIA:
HORIZONS OF PEACE." THE COMMENTARY RUNS THROUGH IN
SOME DETAIL THE STANDARD SOVIET LINE PLUGGING ASIAN
COLLECTIVE SECURITY (ACS); THE HELSINKI PARALLEL,
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FAVORABLE COMMENTS FROM ASIAN LEADERS AND NEWSPAPERS,

PAST EFFORTS SUCH AS BANDUNG, THE NEGATIVE EXAMPLE OF "IMPERIALIST" MILITARY BLOCS, AND THE OBVIOUS NEED FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND EAST ASIA.

2. THE COMMENTARY THEN GOES ON TO IMPLY MORE PRECISELY THAN USUAL THE SORT OF FRAMEWORK MOSCOW HOPES TO FOSTER: THE SIMLA ACCORD AND THE SOVIET TREATIES WITH INDIA, IRAQ "AND OTHER COUNTRIES." MAYEVSKIY CITES THE INDIAN NEWSPAPER "NATIONAL HERALD" CLAIMING THAT THE SOVIET-INDIAN TREATY OF 1971 IS NOT DIRECTED AT ANY THIRD COUNTRY AND THAT IT SERVES THE INTERESTS "NOT ONLY OF THE TWO STATES BUT OF THE WHOLE WORLD." MAYEVSKIY CONCLUDES THAT THERE ARE, NEVERTHELESS, "A NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES" TO BE OVERCOME BEFORE THE ACS SCHEME CAN BE REALIZED.

3. COMMENT: IN CONTRAST TO STANDARD SOVIET COMMENTARY THIS ONE DOES NOT MENTION PEKING'S OPPOSITION TO THE ACS IDEA. (THE SOVIETS USUALLY SAY THAT ACS, TO BE EFFECTIVE, MUST INCLUDE ALL OF THE IMPORTANT COUNTRIES OF ASIA, INCLUDING CHINA, BUT THAT THE CHINESE OPPOSE IT, THEREBY PROVING THEIR OPPOSITION TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN ASIA.) MAYEVSKIY MENTIONS CHINA ONLY ONCE, AS ONE OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THE USSR SIGNED "DOCUMENTS" IN THE EARLY 50'S SUPPORTING COLLECTIVE EFFORTS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY.

4. THE ONLY OTHER VARIATION FROM THE NORM IS MAYEVSKIY'S MORE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF WHAT THE ACS SHOULD LOOK LIKE--EXAMPLES WHICH ALL INVOLVE A DOMINANT SOVIET ROLE. THIS COMMENTARY, OVER AN AUTHORITATIVE BY-LINE, DOES NOT MOVE THE ACS CLOSER TO REALITY, BUT IT DOES KEEP UP THE LEVEL OF MEDIA ATTENTION WHICH HAS BEEN HIGH SINCE HELSINKI AND MAY BE AIMING TOWARD A FURTHER AFFIRMATION AT THE 25TH CPSU CONGRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW16347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750395-1069
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751146/aaaabpdp.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRAVDA PLUGS ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, XB, UR, PRAVDA, (MAYEVSKIY, VIKTOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006